

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SAM-01 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /156 W

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R 141255Z SEP 74 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9344

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 7851

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, AO PO CG

SUBJ: RANQUE FRANQUE'S FLEC ASSESSED

REF: KINSHASA 7747

1. RANQUE FRANQUE'S SLEC OBVIOUSLY DOES NOT ACT LIKE A LIBERATION GROUP IN EXILE. BOTH FRANQUE AND HIS EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SECRETARY ANTONIO SOZINHO HAVE OFFICIAL PORTUGUESE DOCUMENTS PERMITTING THEM TO ENTER AND LEAVE CABINDA FREELY. SOZINHO EVEN MENTIONED TO EMB-OFF A CALL HE RECENTLY MADE ON GOVERNOR OF CABINDA.

2. USEFUL PERSPECTIVE BETWEEN EMBOFF AND ANTONIO MONTEIRO, HEAD OF PORTUGUESE INTERESTS SECTION IN SPANISH EMBASSY HERE. EMBOFF MENTIONED FRANQUE'S CALL AT EMBASSY (REFTEL) AND ASKED FOR INFORMATION ABOUT FLEC. MONTEIRO SAID FLEC WAS CAINDAN SEPARATIST MOVEMENT IN WHICH VARIOUS GROUPS AND MEN WERE COMPETING FOR LEADERSHIP. THER WERE FEW OR NO LINKS BETWEEN THEM BUT THEY USED CONFIDENTIAL

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THE SAME FLEC LABEL. FRANQUE HAD NO GREAT FOLLOWING EITHER IN CA-

BINDA OR ZAIRE. MANY CABINDANS IN ZAIRE WHO INTERESTED IN CABINDA SEPARATING FROM ANGOLA WERE SEEKING MORE AUTHENTIC LEADERSHIP, JUDGING THAT FRANQUE'S LONG RESIDENCE IN ZAIRE DISQUALIFIED HIM. MOREOVER, SOZINHO IS UNPOPULAR AMONG CABINDANS LIVING IN ZAIRE. FRANQUE'S MAIN ASSETS ARE HIS STRONG CLAIM TO BE FIRST IN THE FIELD AND FACT THAT MOBUTU NOW SUPPORTING HIM.

3. MONTEIRO SAID THAT TCHIOUFOU, OF THE BRAZZAVILLE-BASED FLEC, PROBABLY HAS A WIDER AUDIENCE IN CABINDA THAN FRANQUE. NEITHER ONE OF THEM IS AS INFLUENTIAL A FIGURE AS PINHEIRO DA SILVA WHO, MONTEIRO BELIEVES, IS CURRENTLY SETTING UP A FLEC OFFICE IN LISBON. THERE IS ALSO APPARENTLY SUCH AN OFFICE IN LUANDA. MONTEIRO CONCLUDED THAT FLEC IS A DIFFUSE MOVEMENT LACKING STRUCTURE AND UNITY BUT GAINING IN IMPORTANCE AS CABINDAN SEPARATIST SENTIMENT GROWS. HE INDICATED HE WAS NOT SANGUINE AS TO CABINDA'S ABILITY TO PERSUADE OAU AFRICA OF THEIR RIGHT TO INDEPENDENCE FROM ANGOLPM

4. COMMENT: MONTEIRO'S COMMENTS SUGGEST THAT GOP WANTS TO AVOID BEING IDENTIFIED WITH ANY PARTICULAR CABINDAN GROUP OR SPOKESMAN. HINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL STABILITY, LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974KINSHA07851
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740258-0640
From: KINSHASA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740945/aaaablut.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: KINSHASA 7747
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2003 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RANQUE FRANQUE'S FLEC ASSESSED
TAGS: PINS, AO, PO, CG, (FRANQUE, LOUIS RANQUE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005